

A Call for Action: Raising Ambition for Climate Adaptation and Resilience

We stand together as global leaders to express our highest concern at the climate crisis that the world is now facing, and our resolve to act. As we urgently increase our efforts to reduce emissions, we must give **equal and increased urgency to adapt to climate impacts and build resilience for the future**. Droughts, dust storms, heat waves, cyclones, devastating storms, floods and rising sea levels are just some of the climate impacts already exacerbating economic, social and security threats, and are only set to increase in the future.

Communities that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change face an existential threat - to lives and livelihoods as well as existing and future development. The IPCC Special Report on the Impacts of Global Warming of 1.5°C states that both urgent and transformational adaptation action is needed to reduce climate-related risk. **Yet adaptation action is not keeping pace with the scale of impacts**. Some estimates suggest that the true costs of adaptation in developing countries could be up to \$300bn per year by 2030¹, whereas there are substantial benefits to be gained from acting now. We must step up efforts to close the gap in adaptive capacity and financing, and to remove the barriers that hinder the uptake of knowledge and technology.

At the same time, climate impacts threaten our safety and prosperity and will affect all sections of society in all regions of the globe. **The scale of expected impacts is such that business as usual is no longer an option for any country, community, business or financial institution**. Substantial efforts have been made by a number of countries and institutions, but we need systemic change. We must build a vision for a climate resilient future that puts **adaptation at the centre of decision-making, and take immediate action now to protect people, economies and the environment**.

We acknowledge that adaptation challenges require inclusive and gender sensitive global action and we share a collective ambition, in line with the SDGs, to achieve a world in which no person is left behind by the impacts of climate change.

We must step up efforts to meet these challenges. In this context, we commit to enhance adaptation and resilience action, particularly in three areas (as relevant to governments and other organisations):

- **Acting now to respond to immediate climate impacts and to support the most vulnerable members of society**, including by, as appropriate:
 - Significantly scaling up capacity to prepare and respond to disaster through increased access to mechanisms that enable early action, alongside climate risk insurance and other social safety nets
 - Intensifying efforts to increase food and water security, particularly for smallholder farmers
 - Prioritising and resourcing regional and country owned approaches in developing countries and communities facing climate related vulnerabilities, especially in SIDS and LDCs
- **Building resilient futures by putting climate risk at the centre of decision making** including by, as appropriate:
 - Integrating adaptation and resilience into long-term planning and allocating central capacity to oversee delivery; including through updated Nationally Determined Contributions, National Adaptation Plans, Adaptation Communications, National Development Plans, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies, or other relevant long-term strategies
 - Increasing the resilience of our economies and financial systems by taking steps to integrate climate risk into investment decision making and business planning, including through disclosing and pricing risk; while

¹ Estimate from UNEP Adaptation Gap Report 2016

making every effort to avoid additional financial burdens in developing countries in a manner consistent with sustainable development

- Enabling and accelerating transition to resilient land use and ecosystems; emphasising the importance of protecting biodiversity and of nature-based solutions
- Equipping countries, businesses, youth and other stakeholders with tools to meet future challenges by sharing knowledge, data, and expertise; including through the development of metrics and encouraging sharing and dissemination of environmentally friendly technologies
- **Urgently increasing the availability of adaptation and resilience finance** including by, as appropriate:
 - Significantly scaling up international public finance for adaptation in developing countries and achieving a better balance between mitigation and adaptation flows; including through tools to reduce financial risk such as concessional and grant-based financing
 - Providing technical assistance to strengthen policy frameworks and encouraging a greater share of financing for adaptation and resilience action at all levels, including at the local level, in line with national plans and policies
 - Mobilising transformational investments from the private sector; including by developing innovative public/private partnerships and other tools to leverage new investment

We will reconvene in the margins of COP25 and COP26 to consider progress towards the aims of this Call for Action, including those that will be delivered through the various initiatives launched at the Secretary General's Climate Action Summit. The 2020 Climate Adaptation Summit and the Year of Action launched by the Global Commission on Adaptation also serve as an opportunity to further reinforce our common goal of accelerating adaptation action.

Endorsed by (countries, 112):

Afghanistan	Cook Islands	Haiti
Andorra	Costa Rica	India
Angola	Croatia	Ireland
Antigua and Barbuda	Cuba	Italy
Argentina	Cyprus	Jamaica
Austria	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Jordan
Bahamas	Djibouti	Kingdom of the Netherlands
Bahrain	Dominica	Kiribati
Bangladesh	Dominican Republic	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Barbados	Ecuador	Lebanon
Belgium	Egypt	Lesotho
Belize	Eritrea	Liberia
Benin	Ethiopia	Luxembourg
Bhutan	Fiji	Madagascar
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Finland	Malawi
Burkina Faso	France	Maldives
Burundi	Gambia	Mali
Cabo Verde	Germany	Marshall Islands
Cambodia	Greece	Mauritania
Central African Republic	Grenada	Mauritius
Chad	Guinea	Mexico
Chile	Guinea-Bissau	Micronesia (Federated States of)
Comoros	Guyana	Monaco

Morocco
Mozambique
Myanmar
Nauru
Nepal
New Zealand
Niger
Niue
North Macedonia
Norway
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Peru
Rwanda
Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Samoa
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Singapore
Solomon Islands
Somalia
South Sudan
Spain
Sudan
Suriname
Sweden

Timor-Leste
Tokelau
Togo
Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago
Tuvalu
Uganda
United Kingdom
United Republic of Tanzania
Uruguay
Vanuatu
Yemen
Zambia

Supported by (UN Institutions and IFI's, 16):

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EBRD
IADB
IFAD
IOM
IsDB

UN OCHA
UNCTAD
UNDP
UNDRR
UNEP
UNEPFI

UNHCR
WFP
WMO
WB

Supported by (organisations and institutions, 68):

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African Risk Capacity
Insurance
BHP
BOND
Braskem
BSR
CARE International
Christian Aid
Community Oriented
Investment Generating New
Enterprise
CGIAR
Centre for Urban Disaster Risk
Reduction and Resilience
DWS
Ecolab
Enedine Capital Resources
Corporation
Food and Land Use Coalition
Fundación Nueva Generación
Argentina
Germanwatch
Global Centre on Adaptation

Global Environment Facility
Global EverGreening Alliance
Global Resilience Partnership
Global Water Partnership
Grameen Foundation
Greater Globe Alliance
Heineken
Institute of Environmental
Management and Assessment
Institute of Marine
Engineering, Science &
Technology
International Chamber of
Commerce
International Chamber of
Shipping
International Federation of
Red Cross and Red Crescent
Societies
International Research
Institute for Climate and
Society, Earth Institute,
Columbia University

International Institute for
Environment and
Development
Krisoker Sor (Farmers Voice)
Lightsmith Group
Mars Incorporated
Mercy Corps
Microsoft
Near East Foundation
Olam International
Pacific Institute
Partnership on Sustainable,
Low Carbon Transport
PIANC, the World Association
for Waterborne Transport
Infrastructure
Practical Action
Rare
Resurgence Urban Resilience
Trust
Self Help Africa
Stockholm International
Water Institute
SYSTEMIQ
The Coca-Cola Company

**The Huairou Commission
The Institute of Marine
Engineering, Science and
Technology
The Institutional Investors
Group on Climate Change
(IIGCC)
The Nature Conservancy
Navigating a Changing Climate
Initiative**

**Third Generation
Environmentalism (E3G)
Urban Systems Lab, The New
School
Vanuatu Climate Action
Network
Vanuatu Business Resilience
Council
Vi Agroforestry
Wetlands International
Willis Towers Watson**

**Women's Climate Centers
International
World Association for
Waterborne Transport and
Infrastructure
World Economic Forum
World Resources Institute
Young Power in Social Action
"4 per 1000" Initiative**